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ther this be designed to represent some detail of harness, or part of the natural outline, the writer does not venture to speculate; but refers to the fact, that amongst the objects shown to Pallas, as having been found in the tombs surrounded by stone circles, on the Obi, were flat cast figures of elks, reindeer, and stags. The object supposed by the writer to be a plough on the *Table des Marchands* has been thought by careful observers to represent portion of an animal figure.

As regards the probable age of the megalithic monuments of Brittany, the writer noticed the fact, that Cisalpine Gaul was peopled by tribes from the region of Transalpine Gaul, corresponding with modern Brittany, so early as the first and second centuries after the foundation of Rome; and that, with one exception near Trent, no monuments of this character appear to have been observed anywhere in the valley of the Po. On this subject the writer invited information, and submitted that, if in fact the Gaulish family did not leave such memorials of their presence in Lombardy, the conclusion would seem to follow that we must seek for the people who practised those modes of sepulture in an earlier epoch than that of the Celtic migrations. The singular taste and barbaric aspect of the objects appear to the writer to refer them to a race having more of the characteristics of the Indian and Polynesian offshoots from the parent seats, than of any of the existing nationalities of Europe.

DENIS H. KELLY, Esq., read the following—

ACCOUNT OF INSCRIBED STONES AT FUERTY, COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON.

PREVIOUS to entering on the subject matter of the paper to be submitted to the Academy's notice this evening, I think it well to read St. Evins words, as quoted by Colgan in the tripartite Life of St. Patrick, in order that a correct idea may be formed of the remarkable locality in which these inscribed stones have been discovered, and which my lamented friend, Dr. O'Donovan, has fully identified in the Ordnance Survey letters, county of Roscommon, in 1838, with the *Ṗṛṁṁṁ* of Colgan:—

"The holy man came afterwards to the country of Ua Maine; and, preaching the divine word there, converted and baptized all the people of that country, and laid the foundation of the church of *Ṗṛṁṁṁ*, over which he appointed one of his disciples *re et nomine Justus*, and who was in dignity a *deacon*. He left him the 'Ritual Book of the Sacraments and of the Sacred Ministry.'

"The *sanctity* of Justus was not more wonderful than his *age*; for it is said 'that it was from *this Ritual Book*, left him by St. Patrick, he read, in the CXLth year of his age! the form and the rite, when he regenerated St. Kiernan of Cluain in the salutary water of baptism.' "

Colgan also says, in a note, that "Fidhart was in his own time a parish church, in the diocese of Elphin, and in the country of Mainech."

Dr. O'Donovan, at considerable length, in the Ordnance Survey Letters, Roscommon, proves the Fiodart of Colgan to be derived from *Ṗṛṁṁ*, a wood, and *ardus*, an height; and from the analogy of

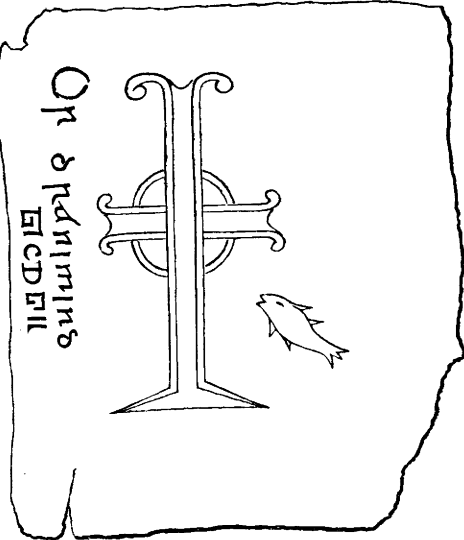
πιοῦ being elsewhere Anglicised Few, as in the case of the Fews in Armagh, les Fayes O Neachtan's Country, in Roscommon, &c., that the present name Fuerty may well be Fiodh (*Few*), ἀρῖς (*art*), τῖς (*tigh* or *ty*), Few-art-ty.

St. Patrick when he baptized the people of Hymany, came from Uapán, now *Oran*, in the north of the county of Roscommon, where he had just been baptizing the Síol Múneabairí, or O'Conors; and Fuerty would be precisely in the position the Saint would naturally have taken, and it also fulfils another of the points of Colgan's description by being in a *loop of the Suck*, which there is very remarkably sinuous.

Mr. Petrie wrote to my friend Dr. O'Donovan, to Tuam, county of Galway, on 8th September, 1838, as follows:—

"I have got from Mr. Smith some copies of Irish inscriptions, collected in Ireland by a man named Matt O'Connor,—one in the churchyard of *Fuerty*, county of Roscommon; another at Fair Hill, county of Galway."

O'Donovan, being at that time unable to return to the county of Roscommon, communicated Mr. Petrie's communication to me, and requested that I would make inquiry for anything of the kind. I did so; but all my exertions were in vain, till July, 1862, when I received a polite note from the Rev. J. S. Gumley, Perpetual Curate of Fuerty, to say that two curiously sculptured stones, of evidently ancient date, had recently been discovered, hid under rank grass, at the interment of a parishioner; and that, knowing I took an interest in such matters, he would gladly point them out to me. It was traditionally said that a man named O'Connor, a great scholar, had discovered them several years ago, and that he had stated the inscription upon them to mean—"Eight men, who took their title as fishers of men, lie here until the end of time." On going there, I found two inscribed flagstones, bearing every mark of extreme antiquity. One was of grey and the other of red sandstone. They were placed in proximity, as the covering of a recent grave, and were of about similar dimensions, 3 ft. x 2 ft. 6 in. No. 1 was nearly square. The inscription is in incised letters, and very legible, except the two last strokes of what I



No. 1.

take to be a date; and I read it

Op ð panimib,
 “Pray for many Saints.”*

MCDVII.

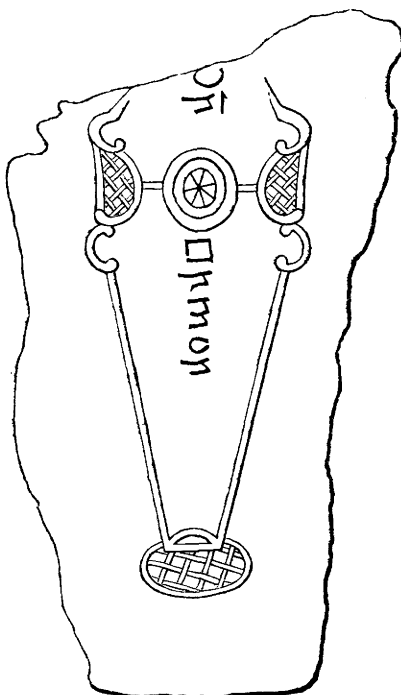
M.CD.VII. 1407.

The other stone, figured as No. 2, has been partially broken.† It is of red sandstone, and its inscription is also incised. The external band appears to have been intended to represent a coffin, to which form the stone itself also approximates. The central boss, as well as the two lateral enclosures, are of the Irish interlaced work, as well as the one at the foot (there may have been another at the top when the stone was unbroken), and make the form of a cross, similar to those found in our most ancient churches. There is one nearly the same in the primitive Irish church of the *Luét Cruib-éacé* at Inch Góill, in Lough Corrib, county of Galway. This inscription is quite legible, and I read it

Op upmop,
 Pray for very many,

being singularly in accordance with the inscription on No. 1.

That these stones are of a very remote antiquity can hardly be disputed; and the fish in No. 1, the primitive emblem of Christianity, so prominent in the early martyrs' monuments in the Catacombs at Rome, well bears out the fact.



No. 2

* Mr. Petrie, who has since been at the place, and examined these stones, makes Op aranmamnoib acain, op̄ ar anmam oib acain, meaning, Pray for the soul of Oidachain, or Ogan (M'Egan).

† Dr. Petrie makes this Op Armoil, op̄ ar Maoil (quere Seacolum), which may have been on the broken part of the stone, and means, Pray for Maelseachluin.

The tripartite Life of St. Patrick tells us that "St. Patrick himself here founded a monastery, and placed over it his honoured disciple Justus." Tradition has it that here were both a monastery and a nunnery, celebrated for the sanctity of their inhabitants; and that they so continued up to 1641, when Robin Ormsby, of Tobarvaddy (Τοβαρ α μαβαϊδ ("the Wolf's Well"), one of Coote's most active lieutenants, and who was usually called Ριμβερε να Ξιγγερετα, or Jingling Robert, from the clattering of his coat of mail and his horse trappings, expelled the monks and nuns, and levelled the ancient structures to the ground, and verily left not one stone upon another! so that these two stones alone remain to testify that they once were there.

Whether I may be right in my guess as to the date, or not, it is certain that these stones are not the production of modern times; and they combine to prove the same fact, that many celebrated for their sanctity once dwelt here, and were interred in Fuerty church-yard.

Dr. Petrie made some remarks in explanation, and gave a different reading and analysis of the inscriptions. Reference being made to Dr. Stokes regarding the representation of a fish on one of these stones, he observed that, in a recent visit to Prague, he found this symbol very prevalent on the tombstones of the Jewish cemetery in that city.

The Academy then adjourned.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1864.

THE VERY REV. CHARLES GRAVES, D. D., President, in the Chair.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Charlemont; Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore; Charles H. Foot, B. A.; G. Charles Garnett, B. A.; J. J. Digges La Touche, B. A.; and Major Robert Poore; were elected members of the Academy.

Edward Blythe, Esq. (with the permission of the Academy), read a paper "On the existing Species of Stag (*Elaphus*)."

THE REV. SAMUEL HAUGHTON, M. D., Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, read the following paper:—

NOTES ON ANIMAL MECHANICS.

No. I.—*On the Muscular Mechanism of the Hip Joint in Man.*

Introduction.—In the course of the following notes on the muscular mechanism of the joints in man and other animals, I shall have occasion to use certain principles, or postulates as I prefer to call them, which are not as yet employed generally by anatomical writers; and for this reason I shall here give a few words of explanation respecting them.

These postulates are two in number, and are as follows:—

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Via, Johannes a, Life of SS. Marinus and Anianus by, 295.

Vice-Presidents. *See* Academy.

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Villars, the Marquis de, Memoirs of the Court of Spain by, 224.

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Washington, Captain, R. N., 203.

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Westropp, Hodder M., on Fanaux de Cimities and round towers, 194; on the pre-Christian cross, 322.

Whately, the Most Rev. Archbishop, death of, 485; obituary notice of, 486.

White, Stephen, original letter of, to Father John Colgan, 33; works by, 32; memoir of, 29; character of, 30, 31.

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Whitshed, Captain St. Vincent Hawkins, donation of, 471.

Wilde, Sir William R., member of Council (Committee of Antiq.) in 1862, 117; in 1863, 305; in 1864, 487; Vice-President, 305; Secretary of Foreign Correspondence, 487; on antique gold ornaments found in Ireland prior to 1747, 82; catalogue of gold articles in the Museum, 89; description of a crannog in the county of Cavan, 274; on antiquities presented by the Board of Works, 324; on the gold articles added under the treasure-trove grant, 406; on an ancient Irish shield, 487; on the shrine of St. Manchan, 493; presentations through, 153, 289, 428.

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Zinc bloom, or blüthe, 19; hydrocarbonates and silicates of, 5; chemical composition of silicates of, 20, molecular changes produced in, by heat, 55.

CORRIGENDA.

Page 409, *for* Dr. R. Keller, *read* Dr. F. Keller.

" 457, line 23, *for* *Ööill*, *read* *Ööill*.

" 458, " 28, *for* Blythe, *read* Blyth.

" 487, " 10, *for* George B. Stoney, *read* George J. Stoney.

" 487, Com. Pol. Lit., *insert* Rev. George Longfield, B. D.

END OF VOLUME VIII.